

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY  
OFFICE OF PROGRAM SERVICES  
PROGRAM PROFILE

## OSPI Prevention and Intervention Services Program

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**Who Can I Contact at DASA for More Information?**

**Primary Contact Information:**

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**Program Description:**

This program provides funds to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), which in turn, awards funds to successful local grant applicants for the purpose of placing intervention specialists in schools. Intervention specialists assist students in kindergarten through twelfth grade to overcome problems of substance abuse and strive to prevent the abuse of, and addiction, to alcohol and other drugs, including nicotine. Intervention specialists provide prevention and early intervention services to students and their families, assist in referrals to treatment providers, and support the transition back to school for students who have received treatment for drug and alcohol abuse. The ultimate goal of the program is to provide prevention and intervention services in schools to enhance the classroom environment for students and teachers and better enable students to realize their academic and personal potentials.

**What Populations are Served/ Who is Eligible for These Services?**

K-12 Washington State public school students.

**How Many People are Served During the Biennium?**

Approximately 42,550 K-12 students are served each biennium. Services are delivered by approximately 180 intervention specialists to about 600 schools (roughly one-third of the public schools in the state).

**What is the Biennial Funding Amount and Source(s)?**

The funding sources are the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (\$8,179,190) and the General Fund-State (\$1,939,036).

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**What would be the Impact If This Program was No Longer Available?**

The OSPI Prevention and Intervention Services Program plays an important role in addressing Washington State's continued concern over the educational, economic, and social cost of alcohol and other drug use and abuse. Without this program:

- 20,000 youth and their families per year would get absolutely no support for their alcohol/drug-related issues.
- Schools and communities would lack strong collaboration and resources for youth in need.
- DBHR would lose its primary referral source for youth inpatient and outpatient programs statewide.
- Implementation of science-based prevention in school settings would be severely curtailed.

**What Agencies Collaborate with DBHR to Deliver These Services?**

OSPI administers the program, and collaborates with school districts across the state.

**What Are Sources for Program Data or More Information?**

2008-2009 Final Report, *Addressing Adolescent Substance Abuse: An Evaluation of Washington's Prevention and Intervention Services Program* prepared by RMC Research, Inc. The report is available from DBHR.